

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 11959 071543Z

47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2518

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

US MTN DEL GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 11959

DEPT PASS STR

GENEVA FOR GATT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EEC, EPAP

SUBJ: 301 CASE ON CITRUS

1. SOAMES' CHEF DE CABINET HANNAY CALLED DCM DECEMBER 7 AND ASKED WE CONVEY FOLLOWING TO STR RE 301 CASE ON CITRUS. HE SAID SOAMES AND GUNDELACK HATTACH HIGHEST IMPORTANCE TO ACTION BY US ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE CLEAR THAT, AT TIME OF ARTICLE XXIV:6 SETTLEMENT, US ACCEPTED FACT OF SOME DISCRIMINATION IN FAVOR OF MEDITERRANEAN SUPPLIERS AND THAT THIS ASPECT OF EC POLICY SHOULD NOT BE CALLED INTO QUESTION. HE SAID THEY DID NOT WANT US TO ENGAGE IN PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF CASEY-SOAMES UNDERSTANDING, BUT FELT THAT STATEMENTS BY EBERLE AT TIME OF XXIV:6 SETTLEMENT, TO EFFECT THAT US FELT IT HAD REACHED SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT, SHOULD STAND ON THEIR MERITS.

2. HANNAY SAID COMMISSION UNDERSTANDS AND WOULD NOT CONTEST RIGHT OF US TO TRY TO BARGAIN DOWN EC MFN TARIFF RATES ON CITRUS DURING MTN. HOWEVER, COMMISSIONERS WANTED TO MAKE CLEAR TO US THAT AN ATTACK ON MEDITERRANEAN PREFERENCES AS SUCH

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 11959 071543Z

WOULD GET NOWHERE AND WOULD ONLY SUCCEED IN SOURING US-EC

RELATIONS AND MTN ATMOSPHERE.

3. DCM REMINDED HANNAY THAT CASEY-SOAMES INCLUDED EC COMMITMENT TO CONSULT WITH US ON PARTICULAR PROBLEMS WHICH PREFERENCES ON SPECIFIC PRODUCTS MIGHT CREATE IN FUTURE. HANNAY DID NOT DENY THIS BUT SAID COMMISSION REGARDED ACTION TAKEN IN XXIV:6 AS COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO THAT PARTICULAR CONCERN. IN ANY CASE, WHILE ORECOGNIZING THAT STR HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT 301 COMPLAINT, COMMISSIONERS EXPECTED ADMINISTRATION TO REFRAIN FROM ACTIONS WHICH WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS DIRECT ASSAULT ON COMMUNITY'S MEDITERRANEAN POLICY, WITH ALL THE POLITICAL FALLOUT WHICH SUCH AN ATTACK WOULD INVOLVE. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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